SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

Media Contact: Mindy Baxter
214-648-3404
melinda.baxter@email.swmed.edu

REGENTS APPROVE $80 MILLION FOR BUILDING PROJECT AT UT SOUTHWESTERN

DALLAS – February 9, 2000 – The University of Texas System Board of Regents today approved the largest single Permanent University Fund (PUF) allocation ever made, $80 million, toward construction of a 16-story research tower to be built on the North Campus of UT Southwestern Medical Center.

The 760,000-square-foot building will cost $240 million to complete and will be about twice as large as any previous building at the medical center. It is believed that if initiated now, it would also be the second-largest building project in the Dallas area, smaller only than the American Airlines Center arena.

In addition to the $80 million allocation from PUF, $100 million for the building will be financed through federal grants and $60 million is to be raised from philanthropic sources. Construction is expected to begin in 2002, and the building should be ready for occupancy in 2005.

The regents approved the funds at a quarterly board meeting in Houston as part of an overall building expansion budget for the UT System.

"This will be the fifth biomedical building constructed on our North Campus since 1990. The new facility will be urgently needed to accommodate the rapidly expanding research activities planned here at UT Southwestern," medical center President Dr. Kern Wildenthal said. "With the Regents' continued support, along with the help of local private donors, we have been able to provide the facilities needed to attract and retain world-class doctors and scientists engaged in exceptionally exciting medical advancements."

Since the 1960s, UT Southwestern has added more than 4 million square feet of new construction and more than doubled the size of the campus. The Regents awarded $20 million for the most recent research tower on North Campus, the Seay Biomedical Building located at Inwood Road and Harry Hines Boulevard.

The new, $240 million building will have a significant impact on the local economy.

Using standard regional economic multipliers from the U.S. Department of Commerce and the State Comptroller's Office, expenditures associated with the construction of this building will stimulate $720 million in additional economic activity in the region and create more than 2,000 new jobs.

(MORE)

BUILDING - 2

The new facility, as yet unnamed, will have two components. The first, a 16-story building, will house 13 floors of research space and three floors of parking. The second component will include more floors of parking, support services and a landscaped plaza.

The new research tower is part of UT Southwestern's long-range building plan, which will ultimately include at least eight research towers on the North Campus.

In 1987, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation gave UT Southwestern 30 acres of land north of Inwood Road and east of Harry Hines Boulevard, now known as the North Campus. The medical center subsequently purchased an additional 60 acres of adjacent land from the Foundation. Part of the new tract will be developed for medical center student housing. UT Southwestern's original South Campus occupies 60 acres and has little room for expansion.

Since 1990 UT Southwestern has built the Mary Nell and Ralph B. Rogers Magnetic Resonance Center, the Simmons Biomedical Research Building, the Nancy B. and Jake L. Hamon Biomedical Research Building and the Seay Biomedical Building on the North Campus.

The Regents' allocation of funds to UT Southwestern was made possible by Proposition 17, a constitutional amendment passed by Texas voters in November 1999 that allows allocations from the Permanent University Fund to be based on appreciated investment values as well as accumulated interest and dividends.

The most recent building completed at UT Southwestern, the 10-story Seay building, added 300,000 square feet of space for research and outpatient clinical care. The facility includes dozens of laboratories and clinics dedicated to research and treatment of cancer, mental illness and a variety of other diseases.

The 10-story Hamon building opened in 1995. Its 300,000 square feet of space houses labs where scientists map and sequence part of the human genome and conduct cancer, molecular-immunology, microbiology and neuroscience research.

The 13-story Simmons building, opened in 1993 with 400,000 square feet of space, is home to researchers in a variety of other basic and clinical research fields, including cancer, heart disease, diabetes, neuroscience, immunology and a variety of other neurological and immune-system disorders.

###